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IAB # IV2334436

Criminal Monitor Packet

Deputy Thompson's DMV Records, C.D.L. [redacted]

[redacted] DMV Records, C.D.L. [redacted]

[redacted] Federal Probation NCIC Hit

Public Records Pertaining to Property and Real Estate

18 U.S.C. 371

18 U.S.C. 1001

18 U.S.C 1012

18 U.S.C. 3559 (Classification of Federal Offenses)

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY
IV2334436

SUBJECT:	Deputy Janelle Thompson #[redacted], South Los Angeles Station
LOCATION:	255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles California
DATE / TIME OF INCIDENT:	May 14, 2013 (Tuesday)
DATE OF DEPARTMENT KNOWLEDGE:	May 14, 2013

ALLEGATION

Deputy Thompson was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury for Conspiracy, False Statements and Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Subsequent to a guilty plea, she was convicted on four misdemeanor counts of Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

POLICY SECTION

Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders	3-01/030.10
Performance to Standards	3-01/050.10

SYNOPSIS

On April 19, 2013, Deputy Janelle Thompson was indicted by the Grand Jury in the United States District Court for the Central District of California, located at 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles California. The Indictment, Case Number CR13-271 GAF **[Exhibit A]**, alleged Deputy Thompson, along with her [redacted], [redacted] conspired and made false statements in an effort to defraud the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. It was alleged in the Indictment that the conspiracy was carried out beginning in August, 2005, through approximately March, 2012 and that Janelle Thompson would fraudulently obtain approximately $70,000.00 in housing assistance payments from HUD, via her [redacted] rent subsidy.

On May 14, 2013, Deputy Thompson appeared at the Roybal Federal Building, located at 225 East Temple Street, Los Angeles California, where she was taken into custody by the United States Marshals Service, pursuant to the Indictment charges. At the conclusion of the Federal Booking process, she was released from custody on her own recognizance.

On February 10, 2014, Deputy Thompson appeared in the United States District Court for the Central District of California and pled guilty **[Criminal Minutes, Exhibit B]** to four misdemeanor counts of 18 U.S.C. 1012, Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Specifically, Counts 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Indictment.

On October 20, 2014, Deputy Thompson appeared for sentencing in the United States District Court for the Central District of California **[Judgment and Probation/Commitment Order, Exhibit C]**. She was sentenced to (4) concurrent, two year terms of probation and ordered to make restitution to the Housing Authority of the City of Buenaventura in the amount of, $69,427.50.

IAB Investigators obtained an investigative packet **[Exhibit D]** from the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura, which was the agency responsible for locally administering the Section 8 Program from the United Stated Department of Housing and Urban Development. The packet contained documents identifying [redacted] as a tenant participant in the HUD Voucher Program and Deputy Thompson as the, "Landlord" receiving [redacted] rent subsidy

IAB Note: The investigative packet **[Exhibit D]** was not available to IAB investigators at the time of Deputy Thompson's IAB Interview.

INTERVIEWS

The following interview summaries were based on statements provided by witnesses and the subject during audio recorded interviews. For complete detailed statements, refer to the digital audio recordings or transcripts of the interview included in this investigation.

Subject Deputy Janelle Thompson

On December 30, 2014, Internal Affairs Bureau Investigator Sergeants John Adams and Jeff Smith interviewed Deputy Thompson at Internal Affairs Bureau. Deputy Thompson was interviewed as a Subject and afforded Subject Rights. She was represented by Attorney Charles Goldwasser from the law offices of Charles Goldwasser. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The audio file and transcripts were submitted with this case. The following is a summary of the interview.

Deputy Thompson told investigators she was the subject of a federal fraud investigation stemming from a real estate transaction in Ventura California. She explained she had

purchased a property and allowed her [redacted], [redacted] to live in the residence under a HUD voucher, despite Federal regulations restricting such practices.

IAB Note: See Page 2, Lines 15-17 of the Indictment **[Exhibit A]** regarding restrictions pertaining to Federal subsidies and landlord/tenant relationships.

Deputy Thompson said she was aware of, but disregarded the regulation prohibiting the receipt of her [redacted] rent subsidy. She said her decision to disregard the regulations were based on her belief that her [redacted] legally qualified for the HUD Voucher Program and had not been provided with a reason on why such practices were prohibited.

IAB Note: Pages 4-5 of the Indictment **[Exhibit A]** pertain to Count 1 and allege Deputy Thompson's [redacted] misrepresented the amount of income and assets within the household, thus fraudulently obtaining Federal subsidies via the HUD Voucher Program.

Deputy Thompson told investigators the Federal investigation ultimately led to her indictment and arrest. She surrendered herself to the U.S. Marshall's Service at the Roybal Federal Building where she was booked, arraigned and released on her own recognizance. During subsequent court proceedings, Deputy Thompson pled guilty to four misdemeanor counts of Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She was sentenced to two years of probation and ordered to make restitution.

Deputy Thompson told investigators it was never her intent to defraud the Federal Government and had only endeavored to provide a safe living environment for her [redacted] and [redacted], both of whom were disabled.

IAB Note: Pages 14, 15, 16 and 17 of the Indictment **[Exhibit A]** pertain to Deputy Thompson's (4) guilty pleas pursuant to 18 U.S. 1012 and provide, in part, "Defendant Janelle Thompson, received compensation and reward intending to defraud HUD and unlawfully defeat its purpose."

When asked why she pled guilty to the four counts of fraud, Deputy Thompson indicated it was a legal decision based on the fact monies from the HUD Voucher Program were deposited directly into her bank account.

IAB Note: Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) records contained in **Exhibit D**, reflect Deputy Thompson received the voucher payments in the form of a hard copy check from May 1, 2008 through September 1, 2008. From September 1, 2008 through March 31, 2012, the payments were made via ACH direct deposit. Payment records prior to May 1, 2008 were unavailable, as San Buenaventura Housing Authority payment records were not automated.

In reference to Deputy Thompson's probation status. Deputy Thompson acknowledged she was under the supervision of the United States Probation Office for a period of two years.

In reference to Deputy Thompson's sentencing. Deputy Thompson acknowledged her requirements to make restitution and had developed a payment plan to the Housing Authority of the City of Buenaventura.

Deputy Thompson concluded that she did not believe her criminal conviction would have a negative impact on her ability to carry out her duties as a law enforcement officer. She reasoned her "Misstep" was in 2005 and that she had performed her job beyond that period.



County of Los Angeles

Sheriff's Department Headquarters

4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



February 9, 2015

Deputy Janelle Thompson #[redacted]
[redacted]

Dear Deputy Thompson:

You are hereby notified that it is the intention of the Sheriff's Department to discharge you from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708, with this Department, effective the close of business March 2, 2015.

An investigation under IAB File Number IV2334436, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (as it pertains to 18 U.S.C. 371, 1001(a)(2) and/or 1012, Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development); and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/000.10, Professional Conduct, on or about and between August 2005 through March 2012, while off duty, you conspired and defrauded the Federal Government of Section 8 housing funds, as evidenced by, but not limited to the following:

    a. On April 19, 2013, you were indicted by the Grand Jury with one felony count and five misdemeanor counts of Conspiracy, False Statements and Defrauding the United States Government and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, in violation of 18 USC 371, 1001(a)(2), and 1012; and/or,

    b. On May 14, 2013, you surrendered yourself to the United States Marshals Service pursuant to the

charges in indictment CR 13-0271 filed in the United States Central District Court; and/or,

c. On February 10, 2014, you entered into a plea agreement and pled guilty to four misdemeanor counts of Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a violation of 18 USC 1012; and/or,

d. As a result of your plea, you were placed on probation and agreed to make restitution in the amount of $69,427.50.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.70, False Statements; and/or 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation; and/or 3-01/040.85, Cooperation During Criminal Investigation, on or about January 12, 2012, you knowingly gave false information to a Special Agent of the Office of Inspector General for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development when you denied that [redacted] was your [redacted]

You failed to maintain a level of moral conduct in keeping with the highest standards of the law enforcement profession and/or the Department's Core Values. Your conduct brought discredit and embarrassment to yourself and the Department.

Additional facts for this decision are set forth in the Disposition Worksheet, Investigative Summary and Investigative Packet which are incorporated herein by reference.

You may respond to the intended action orally or in writing. In the event that you choose to respond orally to these charges, you have already been scheduled to meet with Chief Bobby D. Denham, on March 2, 2015, at 1400 hours, in his office, which is located at 4700 Ramona Boulevard, Monterey Park, California 91754. If you are unable to appear at the scheduled time and wish to schedule some other time prior to March 2, 2015, for your oral response, please call Chief Denham's secretary at [redacted] for an appointment.

If you choose to respond in writing, please call Chief Denham secretary to cancel your scheduled appointment, and send your response to the facts contained in this letter to Chief Denham's office by no later than March 2, 2015.

Failure to respond to this Letter of Intent within fifteen (15) business days will be considered a waiver of your right to respond and will result in the imposition of the discipline indicated herein.

If you did not receive the investigative material on which your discipline is based at the time you were served with this correspondence, you may contact the Internal Affairs Bureau at (323) 890-5300, to obtain a copy of the case file.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

Donnie L. Mauldin, Captain
Internal Affairs Bureau

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures.

DLM:BDD:jmr

cc: Advocacy Unit
Employee Relations Unit
Chief Bobby D. Denham, Central Patrol Division
Internal Affairs Bureau
(File # IV2334436)



County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

March 11, 2015

Deputy Janelle Thompson, #[redacted]

[redacted]

Dear Deputy Thompson:

On February 9, 2015, you were served with a Letter of Intention indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under File Number IAB 2334436. You were also advised of your right to review the material on which the discipline was based.

You did not exercise your right to respond. The grievance period involved has now elapsed, with no change in discipline.

You are hereby notified that you are discharged from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective as of the close of business on March 2, 2015.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2334436, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (as it pertains to 18 U.S.C. 371, 1001(a)(2) and/or 1012, Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development); and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/000.10, Professional Conduct, on or about and between August 2005 through March 2012, while off duty, you conspired and defrauded the Federal Government of Section 8 housing funds, as evidenced by, but not limited to the following:

    a. On April 19, 2013, you were indicted by the Grand Jury with one felony count and five misdemeanor counts of Conspiracy, False Statements and Defrauding the United States

Government and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, in violation of 18 USC 371, 1001(a)(2), and 1012; and/or,

b. On May 14, 2013, you surrendered yourself to the United States Marshals Service pursuant to the charges in indictment CR 13-0271 filed in the United States Central District Court; and/or,

c. On February 10, 2014, you entered into a plea agreement and pled guilty to four misdemeanor counts of Defrauding the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a violation of 18 USC 1012; and/or,

d. As a result of your plea, you were placed on probation and agreed to make restitution in the amount of $69,427.50.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.70, False Statements; and/or 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation; and/or 3-01/040.85, Cooperation During Criminal Investigation, on or about January 12, 2012, you knowingly gave false information to a Special Agent of the Office of Inspector General for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development when you denied that [redacted] was your [redacted]

Additional facts for this decision are set forth in the Disposition Worksheet, Investigative Summary and Investigative Packet which are incorporated herein by reference.

In taking this disciplinary action, your record with this Department has been considered, and a thorough review of this incident has been made by Department executives, including your Unit and Division Commanders.

You may appeal the Department's action in this matter pursuant to Rules 4.02, 4.05 and 18.02 of the Civil Service Rules.

You may, if you so desire, within fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of this notice of discharge, request a hearing on these charges before the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, 222 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

BOBBY D. DENHAM, CHIEF
CENTRAL PATROL DIVISION

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures and Civil Service Rules.

BDD:EMS:DLM:vv

cc: Advocacy Unit
Bobby D. Denham, Chief, Central Patrol Division
Steven J. Sciacca, Captain, South Los Angeles Station
Internal Affairs Bureau
Judy A. Gerhardt, Captain, Personnel Administration